



ECC issues policy for injuries sustained by stay-in local workers

The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC), by virtue of its mandate to formulate policies and guidelines for the effective implementation of the Employees' Compensation Program, recently issued a policy regarding the compensability of death or injuries sustained or incurred by local employees who are required by their employer to stay in quarters provided by the latter.

The policy practically adopted the so-called "bunkhouse rule" cited by the Supreme Court in the case of

Uy vs. Workmen's Compensation Commission where the Court ruled that when the employee is required to stay in the premises or in quarters furnished by the employer, injuries sustained therein are in the course of employment regardless of the time of its occurrence.

The policy, however, provides exceptions to the general rule, such as when the injury was occasioned by the employee's intoxication, wilful intent to injure or kill himself

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ECC and DOLE RO 11 conduct advocacy seminar in Davao City

The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) conducted the 3rd ECC-DOLE Advocacy Program this CY 2012 in Region 11 at Marco Polo Hotel, Davao City on 28 June 2012, in a bid to pro-

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ECC OIC Deputy Executive Director Jonathan T. Villasoto clarifies various issues on the Employees' Compensation Program as DOLE Davao Regional Director Joffrey M. Suyao and some media practitioners listen during the ECC press conference at the Marco Polo Hotel in Davao City on 28 June 2012.

Typhoon victim's kin gets EC benefits

Marites Navarro, surviving spouse of a missing security guard assigned at Bubunawan Hydro-power Plant in Bukidnon, received ten thousand pesos as funeral benefits under the EC Program. Aside from the said amount, the family of the deceased will receive a monthly death benefit pension for the security guard's work-connected death as soon as he is declared presumptively dead by the proper authority.

According to the reports, the said hydropower plant was one of the establishments badly hit by

Typhoon Sendong wherein ten workers died.

Under ECC Board Resolution 93-08-0068, dated 5 August 1993, the provision on presumptive death provides that: "If one is declared presumptively dead after he had been reported missing for some-time, payment of death benefits shall be reckoned from the date he was declared presumptively dead by proper authority, in accordance with law; except when the declaration of death specified another date, in such a case, payment of death benefits shall start from the

latter date; and, in spite of the fact that the body of a missing person had not been recovered, and that no burial activities had been undertaken, the beneficiaries shall still be entitled to funeral benefits, as provided for under the law."

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or another, or notorious negligence as provided under PD No. 626, as amended.

With the issuance of the said policy, workers are virtually insured by the Employees' Compensation Program whenever they are required to stay in the quarters provided by their employers subject, of course, to the limitations imposed by the Employees' Compensation Law.

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mote regional awareness among stakeholders on the various programs of the ECC, specifically focusing on the three ECP components - prevention, compensation, and rehabilitation services for occupationally-disabled workers (ODWs). This is in line with the call of Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz to strengthen linkages between attached agencies and DOLE Regional offices for harmonious and synchronized implementation of DOLE programs and projects.

The one-day seminar started with a welcome remarks made by DOLE Regional Director Joffrey M.

Suyao who vowed to put up an ECC desk in the Davao Regional Office. Director Suyao said that having an ECC representative is very essential as he or she can assist claimants in their EC application. In the opening remarks of OIC-Deputy Executive Director Jonathan T. Villasoto, he emphasized among others, that the advocacy program was in fulfillment of the ECC's mission to ensure that workers are informed of their rights and privileges under the employees' Compensation Program.

Topics discussed during the seminar included basic accident prevention and occupational safety and health, the employees' com-

ensation program, the KaGabay Program, the ECC-Quick Response Team Program, and DOLE's various programs and projects.

More than 150 participants attended the advocacy program comprising of HR Managers, supervisors, administrative officers, safety officers, accountants, and finance officers of various companies in the region.

A press conference was simultaneously conducted during the seminar where Director Suyao and OIC Villasoto acted as resource persons. Fourteen media practitioners attended the said event.

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